

## STATUS OF WOMEN - CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Minutes of the second meeting of the Curriculum Committee held on Tuesday, April 15, at 1:00p.m. at 2030 MacKay Street.

ATTENDANCE: Present were: B. Barclay, I. Fitzpatrick-Martin, G. Hochmann, C, Rutherford, J. Woodsworth, H. Workman and M. Yates.

Guest: Fran Shaver

Absent: S. Hyman, C. MacKenzie

This meeting was also held informally without a set agenda.

Fran Shaver was invited to become a working member of the group and she agreed.

Course Guides were brought to the meeting that were ready for distribution from Liaison. These were divided up amongst the members present.

Question raised - What do we do with them?

A general discussion took place. Points raised - not all guides included reading lists. Certain programs easier to deal with. What is most important? In the absence of guidelines or precedents to follow it was suggested by Fran that 1) We read them 2) Get a gut reaction - anything striking a discordant note or anything that jumps out - note it down. 3) Try to organize your notes.

At the next meeting when people exchange their summaries if there are recurring comments or things found in common, perhaps a pattern will emerge and we could move on from there.

2nd question raised - what was our mandate? - A copy will be distributed at the next meeting - However, it was stressed again that it was important to sensitize faculty to the concerns of this committee. Woodsworth recommended a standard letter to department chairs with a follow-up one year later.

The enormity of the undertaking was discussed. Workman suggested that perhaps a concentration on 1 or 2 high profile departments to begin with could be attempted. It was also suggested that we should concentrate on making small inroads rather than spectacular changes.

Although no great changes could be expected in the technical fields, at least there would be a heightened awareness. The Social Sciences seemed easier as areas for change.

Fitzpatrick-Martin suggested that in male dominated fields, the first thing to do was attract more young females who would be the people writing the text-books years down the line which would ensure a female perspective. Next, a push should be made to hire more women in those areas. It was pointed out that the way the curriculum was expressed was relevant in influencing the choices which young women made in program selection.

The meeting ended at 1:15 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, May 8 at 1:00 p.m. in MI-105, 2130 Bishop.

*M. Yates*